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The A, B, C for
workingmen

[S.I.]

[1896?]

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The A, B, C for Workingmen

LET us not get mixed up with complex matters in connection with the free silver idea.

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Let us not befog our brain with arguments about the crime of '73, or bother with the many theories which the advocates of free silver are giving us.

But let us take a common sense view of the situation.

Now, to start with.

Suppose Bryan was elected and the free coinage act had been passed, and that free coinage was an actual fact.

Suppose that silver could be taken to the mint, and coined into silver dollars, at the ratio of 16 to 1.

How would that affect us?

We haven't got any silver to coin.

A whole lot of people who own silver mines have it, and so they could have it coined into 16 to 1 dollars; but, not having any ourselves, we could not have a solitary, single dollar coined under the free silver act.

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1896?

Now suppose, however, that all the silver mine owners and others who had silver took it all to Washington or Philadelphia or to some other United States mint, and had it coined into 16 to 1 dollars, and

Suppose so much had been coined that all the silver in the world was made into 16 to 1 dollars, and

Suppose that every one of these dollars were piled in one heap right on the next block, and

Suppose EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM WAS WORTH 100 CENTS HERE AND EVERYWHERE.

What good would they do us, unless we had something we could trade by which we could get one?

Well, we have something to trade; everybody has.

Some have labor, so much for a dollar.

Some have lumber, so much for a dollar.

Some have sugar or potatoes or hams or coal or something else, all so much for a dollar.

We have advertising and subscriptions, so much for a dollar.

When we want one of those silver dollars, we cannot go and take it; they don't be-

long to us; they belong to the men who took the silver to the mint to be coined.

If we took one, it would be stealing.

If we asked for one for nothing, it would be begging.

If the owners gave us one for nothing, it would be a gift.

If we borrowed one, it would cost us interest, and so

Most of us, to get one, must trade labor, lumber, sugar, coal, advertising or something to get it.

This is absolutely and honestly so, isn't it?

Well, being so, why do we take any chances on the dollar?

We can get gold now.

It is worth 100 cents on a dollar everywhere.

So we have supposed the silver to be, but Suppose it isn't.

What then?

What is the use of taking a chance unless we can do better? A silver dollar won't be worth more than 100 cents, will it?

We are getting that now.

Let well enough alone.

Some say duty compels a Democrat to back up and vote for a Democrat. You have Bryan's word that he is no Democrat. Let him dare deny that he said it.

Some say it is pretty bad now. We might as well take a chance. It can't be worse.

What kind of tomfoolery is this?

When our baby lay at death's door, did we do any experimenting? We tried everything which could cure, but we did not experiment.

Are things bad in a business way?

Let us tell you something to try.

Vote down this crowd of repudiators.

Tell the world in trumpet tones in November that we want the best money, that we will take no other, and business will revive.

Let the capital out that Bryan and his followers have scared under cover, and prosperity will come.

**END OF
TITLE**